

# OMNIPOTENCE.

A

## SACRED ORATORIO.

As it is performed at the

THEATRE-ROYAL in the HAY-MARKET.

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SET TO MUSIC BY

M R. H A N D E L.

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HUMBLY INSCRIBED TO

H I S M A J E S T Y.

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L O N D O N :

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## P R E F A C E.

NO part of Mr. Handel's works are held in higher estimation, by the best judges, than his compositions for the Duke of Chandos. They are difficult to attain; and the collection from whence this performance is selected, hath been the attentive pursuit of several years, at Sales and Auctions; in the progress of which, I made discoveries of some I had never heard of; and got information of others, which I have not been able to trace. A complete collection cannot well be expected, as some of the original scores have been exposed to public sale. Several other Anthems, composed by him on different occasions, I have met with; and have been informed of others, I have not yet seen.

Of the Anthems composed for the Duke of Chandos, none hath been performed in public, but the following:



*As pants the hart*, &c. which was, by the command of his late majesty, introduced into the Oratorio of *Esther*; and, on that occasion, Mr. Handel added some new movements, and considerable augmentations of voices and instruments, to the other parts. The *Jubilate*, originally composed for three voices, two violins, an hautboy and bass; to this Mr. Handel made, for the performance at St. Paul's, those great additions that are to be seen in the printed score. The Oratorio of *Deborah* is in part compiled from one of these Anthems; but the Music adapted to other Words.

These are all that the Public have any knowledge of: the remainder of those valuable compositions are, in general, unknown: some few movements have been occasionally introduced into performances; but they have never yet been performed collectively.

The Oratorio of *Esther*, and the Serenata, *Acis and Galatea*, are generally reckoned among the compositions for the Duke of Chandos: but they were not originally produced



produced there; the first being composed in the German, and the latter in the Italian language; and translated into English, to the Music Mr. Handel composed before he came into this kingdom, by Mr. Pope, Dr. Arbuthnot, and Mr. Gay; and Mr. Handel made some additions to them for the Duke,

It is worth observation, that there are fewer inaccuracies of emphasis and accent of the English in the compositions of that period, than in his later productions; which is probably owing to that eminent Triumvirate: and the want of some judicious adviser afterwards, is much to be regretted, by the admirers of his extensive genius.

This performance is divided into three parts; under the different subjects of *Creation*, *Redemption* and *Salvation*: the endeavour, in the arrangement, hath been to retain the sublimity of the sacred texts; and the melodious illustration they have received from the genius of Mr. Handel, in the full force, propriety and grandeur, they stand with in the original compositions. A few movements

movements, for connection, are added from his other works, which are too trifling to particularise.

This attempt to retrieve from obscurity, works which *ought* long since to have been produced, by those who had the power of doing it, is most respectfully submitted to the candour of the Public, by

Their most obedient,

Humble Servant,

THE EDITOR.

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# OMNIPOTENCE.

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## SACRED ORATORIO.

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### PART THE FIRST.

#### C R E A T I O N.

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RECITATIVE *accompanied.*

*THE foolish body hath said in his heart, There is no God.*

*Corrupt are they, and become abominable in their wickedness: they corrupt others, and speak blasphemy; their talk is against the Most High.*

A I R.

*Tush! say they; how should God perceive it? Can he judge through the clouds?*

*Thick clouds are a covering to him, that he seeth not; neither shall God regard it.*

RECITATIVE.

*Take heed ye unwise among the people: O ye fools! when will ye understand?*



A I R.

He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? and he that made the eye, shall he not see?

C H O R U S.

Let God arise; and let his enemies be scattered.

Let them also that hate him, flee before him.

R E C I T A T I V E.

*Thou shalt beat them as small as the dust before the wind:  
thou shalt cast them out as the clay in the streets.*

A I R.

Like as the smoke vanisheth, so shalt thou drive them away:

And like as wax melteth at the fire, so let the ungodly perish at the presence of God.

A I R.

My song shall be alway of the loving kindness of the Lord: with my mouth will I ever be shewing thy truth, from one generation to another.

C H O R U S.

The heavens shall praise thy wonderful works: and thy truth in the congregation of the saints.

R E C I T A T I V E

## RECITATIVE accompanied.

*For who is he among the clouds, that shall be compared unto the Lord?*

*Or what is he among the gods, that shall be like unto the Lord?*

## A I R.

God is very greatly to be feared in the council of the saints; and to be had in reverence of all them that are round about him.

O Lord God of hosts! who is like unto thee? thy truth, most mighty Lord, is on every side.

## RECITATIVE accompanied.

*By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the hosts of them, by the breath of his mouth.*

*He spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.*

*The day is his, and the night is his: he hath created the sun and the moon.*

## D U E T T O.

The heavens are thine; the earth is also thine: thou hast laid the foundations of the round world.

B

CHORUS.

C H O R U S.

Righteousness and equity are the habitation of his seat.

R E C I T A T I V E.

*It is the Lord that commandeth the waters; it is the glorious God that maketh the thunder.*

*The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation: the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.*

A I R.

It is the Lord that ruleth the sea: the Lord sitteth above the water-floods; and the Lord remaineth a king for ever and ever.

R E C I T A T I V E.

*He measureth the waters in the hollow of his hand; and meteth out heaven with a span; and comprehendeth the dust of the earth in a measure.*

*He weigheth the mountains in scales; and the hills in a balance.*

A I R.

He calleth the wind out of his treasures; and causeth it to blow under heaven.

It bloweth where it listeth; we hear the sound thereof, but cannot tell whence it cometh or whither it goeth.

CHORUS.



## C H O R U S.

When God arose to judge the world; and to reward  
the proud after their deserving,

The earth trembled and quaked: the very foundations  
also of the hills shook, and were removed!

He cast forth lightnings; and gave his thunder, and  
destroyed them.

## R E C I T A T I V E.

*Ye that love the Lord, see that ye hate the things that  
are evil.*

## A I R.

The Lord preserveth the souls of his saints; and will  
deliver them from the hand of the ungodly.

## R E C I T A T I V E.

*Lift up your eyes on high, and behold, who hath created  
all these things: to him, that bringeth out their host by  
number, by the greatness of his might; for he is strong in  
power.*

*An unwise man doth not well consider this; and a fool  
doth not understand it.*

## CHORUS.

( 2 )

## CHORUS

Tell it out among the heathen, that the Lord is king;  
and that he made the world so fast it cannot be moved.

The earth trembled and quaked, the very foundations  
also of the hills shook, and were removed.

He cast forth lightning, and gave his thunder, and  
destroyed them.

## RECITATIVE

END OF THE FIRST PART.

## A I R

The Lord preserveth the souls of his saints; and will  
deliver them from the hand of the ungodly.

## RECITATIVE

Let us rejoice in light, and behold, who hath created  
all these things: to him, that bringeth out light, and  
darkness, by the greatness of his might; for he is strong in  
power.

An ungodly man shall not comprehend him; and a fool  
shall not understand him.

## CHORUS

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## SACRED ORATORIO.

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### PART THE SECOND.

### R E D E M P T I O N.

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A I R.

**W**HO is this, that cometh from Edom? Who is this, that cometh with dyed garments from Bozrah? This, that is glorious in his apparel; travelling in the greatness of his strength!

### R E C I T A T I V E.

*This is he that speaketh in righteousness; mighty to save. He is our father, our redeemer: his name is from everlasting.*

*Wherefore is he red in his apparel; and his garments like him that treadeth in the wine-fat?*

C

He



*He hath trodden the wine-press alone; and of the people there was none with him: he will tread them in his anger; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon his garments; and he will stain all his raiment.*

T R I O.

For the day of vengeance is in his heart.  
He hath brought redemption to his people;  
And the year of the redeemed is come.

A I R.

The son of truth and righteousness is come, with healing on his wings: the bright and morning star is risen.

C H O R U S.

There is sprung up a light for the righteous; rejoice in the Lord ye righteous: and joyful gladness, for such as are true-hearted.

R E C I T A T I V E.

*The Lord hath fulfilled the promise which he made unto our forefathers.*

*He hath commanded his covenant for ever. Holy and reverend is his name.*

D U E T T O.

Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

RECI-

RECITATIVE accompanied.

*God, who inhabiteth eternity, and sitteth on the throne of his holiness in the midst of light inaccessible! who looketh to the sun, and it is dark; to the moon, and it shineth not; and the stars are dim before his eyes! the heavens are not pure in his sight; and he chargeth his angels with folly.*

*But unto his son he sayeth;*

C H O R U S.

Thy throne, O God, endureth for ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a sceptre of righteousness.

And I will make my first-born higher than the kings of the earth.

RECITATIVE.

*And Jesus went about doing good unto all men.*

*He sought not to do his own will; but the will of him that sent him.*

*He sought not his own glory; but the glory of his father; for he taught salvation unto all; working great miracles; and his works bore witness of him.*

A I R.

He was eyes unto the blind; he was feet unto the lame: he healed their sickness, and eased all their sorrows.

RECITATIVE

## R E C I T A T I V E.

*When the time drew near, that all things which were written by the prophets, concerning THE SON OF MAN, should be accomplished;*

*Accompanied.*

*That he should be delivered unto the Gentiles; and be mocked and spitted on; and that they should scourge him, and put him to death; and on the third day he should rise again;*

*Then went Jesus up unto Jerusalem; and when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it.*

## A I R.

*O Jerusalem, Jerusalem! thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee!*

*How often would I have gathered thy children together, and ye would not?*

## R E C I T A T I V E.

*And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strewed them in the way.*

*And the multitude that went before, and that followed after, cried, saying;*

## C H O R U S.



C H O R U S.

Hosanna to the son of David.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

R E C I T A T I V E.

*The people at Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they knew him not, nor yet the voices of the prophets, which are read every sabbath-day: they have fulfilled THEM in condemning HIM.*

A I R.

He was brought as a lamb to the slaughter; and as a sheep to the sacrifice: yet he opened not his mouth.

When he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not: but committed himself to HIM that judgeth righteously.

R E C I T A T I V E *accompanied.*

HE, *who had done no violence, suffered with transgressors.*

HE, *that knew no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth, made his grave with the wicked.*

D

A I R.

A I R.

Lord, let me know my end, and the number of my days: that I may be certified how long I have to live.

Let me die the death of the righteous; and let my last end be like his.

R E C I T A T I V E.

*Behold! it is CHRIST that is risen from the grave; who was ordained by God to be the judge of the quick and dead.*

C H O R U S.

When he had overcome the sharpness of death, he did open the kingdom of Heaven to all believers.

R E C I T A T I V E.

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son; that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish; but have everlasting life.*

D U E T T O.

In his pity, and in his love, he redeemed us.

R E C I T A T I V E.

*And after he was risen, he appeared unto many for the space of forty days.*

*And*

*And he led them out of Jerusalem as far as to Bethany:  
and he lifted up his hands and blessed them.*

*And while he blessed them, he was parted from them;  
and a cloud received him out of their sight.*

C H O R U S.

He sitteth at the right-hand of God; in the glory of  
the Father.

R E C I T A T I V E.

*O clap your hands together, all ye people: sing unto God  
with the voice of melody!*

*Praise the Lord who helpeth us; and poureth his benefits  
upon us.*

A I R.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious: and  
his mercy endureth for ever.

C H O R U S.

Praised be the Lord.

Sing praises unto the Lord, O ye saints of his: and  
give thanks, for a remembrance of his holiness.

Glory



Glory and worship are before him: power and honour  
are in his sanctuary.

Blessed be God.

HALLELUJAH.

AMEN.

END OF THE SECOND PART.

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# OMNIPOTENCE.

A  
SACRED ORATORIO.

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PART THE THIRD.

SALVATION.

---

SYMPHONY.

CHORUS.

**O** COME, let us sing unto the Lord; let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

- Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving; and shew ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God: and a great king above all Gods.

A I R.

O come, let us worship and fall down; and kneel before the Lord our maker.

For he is the Lord our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

E

CHORUS.

C H O R U S.

Let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

Let the heavens rejoice; and let the earth be glad:  
let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is.

A I R.

For he cometh to judge the earth; and with righteousness the world; and the people with his truth.

R E C I T A T I V E.

THE SON OF MAN *shall come in his glory; and all the holy angels with him.*

*And before him shall be gathered all nations; and he shall set the righteous on his right hand; and the wicked on his left.*

*Then shall he say unto those on his right hand:*

A I R.

Come ye blessed of my father: inherit the kingdom prepared for you, from the beginning of the world.

For I was hungry, and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was naked, and ye clothed me.

CHORUS.



C H O R U S.

Upon the ungodly, he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, storm and tempest: this shall be their portion to drink.

A I R   A N D   C H O R U S.

The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come.

But of that day and hour, knoweth no man: no, not the angels of heaven.

A I R.

The Lord is righteous in all his ways; and holy in all his works.

He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him.

A I R.

O! how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts!

Blessed are they that dwell in thine house: they will be always praising thee.

C H O R U S.

I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with great gladness: I will sing, and speak praises unto the Lord.

A I R

3 V A R I O U S

O magnify the Lord, and worship him upon his holy hill: for the Lord our God is holy.

R E C I T A T I V E.

*Give unto the Lord the honour due unto his name: worship the Lord with holy worship.*

D U E T T O.

O worship the Lord, in the beauty of his holiness.

C H O R U S.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

A M E N.

F I N I S.

